

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR  
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4708**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 31, 2019

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4708 (1R).

This bill would require the Secretary of Agriculture, with the approval of the State Board of Agriculture, to designate a current employee of the department as “Farm Liaison.” The liaison would serve at the pleasure of the secretary and the board.

The liaison would be required to: 1) encourage farmers to participate in State agriculture programs that may benefit those farmers; 2) inform farmers about potential taxation benefits; 3) disseminate information about pilot programs, food donation programs, anti-hunger initiatives, and other department programs that the liaison may deem relevant to each individual farmer; and 4) serve as a coordinator between farmers and organizations that engage in gleaning activities.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 4708 (1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 3235 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date.